

Regional Admission Counselors of California

Promoting out-of-state educational opportunities for Californians

Who we are...

- The Regional Admission Counselors of California (RACC) is composed of college admission professionals who represent colleges and universities outside the state of California.

What we do...

- Members work closely with students and families of California while partnering with high school, community college and independent counselors to provide information on educational opportunities outside of CA.

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Southern California RACC WEEK: 9 cities in 3 days!



Week in Southern California, allowing our members to say 'thank you' to 223 of our RACC Partners for contributing to the success of our organization

Santa Monica as each of the 34 RACC Members attempted to highlight their institution in less than two minutes! Not always an easy task for this group.

Following Santa Monica, the breakfast/lunch series hit the road, traveling to Ventura, Pasadena, San Diego, and Irvine. These events gave RACC members a chance to provide information on new undertakings at each institution and personally thank our RACC partners for their assistance in making our group successful.

Written by: Rachel Hartley

Fall 2011 marked one of RACC's most successful travel seasons to date. The group expanded in size and reach, organizing a record number of mini-fairs and reaching over 70 members from 60 different institutions. In November, RACC hosted part one of the annual Counselor Appreciation

After the countless hours of traveling, RACC members had one last show to end the fall travel season.

and helping fulfill our mission of introducing out-of-state options to California students. RACC Counselor Appreciation Week consisted of a nine city tour of Southern California that included college fairs in Ojai, San Diego, Baldwin Park, San Bernardino, and Victorville. The counselor portion of the week kicked-off in



SPOTLIGHT: RACC Honored by Senator Hernandez

The highlight of the week came at the college fair presented in partnership with Maps4College in Baldwin Park as Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez presented RACC with an award for work done to inspire California students in pursuing higher education.



Pictured left: Gary Bednorz and Ed Devine posing with certificate, which read:

"In honor of your dedication to cultivating and improving the lives of the youth in our community. Your commitment to education has introduced choices and opportunities for their future. Keep up the great work!"

RACC Fall Mini-Fair Tour: Record 51 Mini-Fairs

Want to host your own Mini-Fair? Check out the new "Resources" tab on our website for the Mini-Fair Request Form and several other helpful documents!

www.RegionalAdmissions.com/Resources

A RACC signature event that has become increasingly popular is our Mini Fairs. This Fall, RACC brought these signature 'Mini Out-of-State College Fairs' to a record breaking 51 high schools and community colleges! There were 24 Mini-Fairs in Northern California and 27 in Southern California!

Thank you to the RACC Partners and host institutions for all your help in increasing college options!

So what does a RACC Mini-Fair look like?

This past Fall, Mini-Fairs ranged from 4 to 17 RACC member institutions in attendance and were hosted in several locations indoors and out. We saw many a cafeteria, gym, library, classroom, various senior quads and unfor-

tunately for those with high heels, a few lawns too! We showed up as early as 7:00am for a before-school fair, came just for morning break, or stayed for lunch, and we even sat through a few class periods!

As we approach Spring, many counselors are planning their Junior Parent Nights. As we did this Fall, we want to tailor an event that works best for you, your teachers, and of course, your students. I'll be waiting to hear from you to book your fair!

Written by: Vanessa Ea

Editor's Note: Countless thanks must be given to Vanessa Ea & Teri Ann Matsuda for their hours of work coordinating the Mini-Fairs. RACC appreciates you!

Student Perspective: My Out-of-State College Experience

Student:
Angelique Reynoso

Hometown:
Long Beach, CA

High School:
Lakewood HS

Year in College:
Freshman

College:
Seton Hall Univ.
South Orange, NJ



I sat down with Angelique Reynoso, freshman at Seton Hall University, shortly after she returned home from her first semester of college to talk about what it's like to be a California girl in the state of New Jersey.

Q: How big of a factor was location in determining where to apply?

A: Location was definitely a huge factor in determining my decision.

I had never been to the east coast before, and coming to Seton Hall sounded like a new, fun experience to me. I wanted something different and hearing that it is within such close proximity to New York also helped determine my decision a lot. NYC is so different than CA. I love it!

Q: Once on campus, did you experience any culture shock?

A: Yes, I would definitely say I did, a lot of things were different than what I was used to. The people, the atmosphere, everything was just very different. Like Dunkin Donuts! It was interesting though to see how different life can be just from one coast to another, it really broadened my point of view coming to New Jersey.

Q: At any point did you doubt your decision to leave CA?

A: Sure I did. It was a scary decision but the experience I'm having outweighs those doubts. There's always a bright side to things even if it is snowing outside!

Q: What is your advice to current high school seniors interested in going out of state for college?

A: My advice would be to go for it. Going to school out of state is an opportunity of a lifetime. Being on my own has really allowed me to grow as a person and learn so much, and although being far from home may seem scary in the end you will have no regrets.

Angelique is a Political & Environmental Science major. She is a student worker in the Admission Office.

Interview by Ariana Leon

Interested in being interviewed for our next Newsletter? Currently looking for HS or Independent Counselors to be interviewed about how RACC has helped them. Any inquiries can email Ariana.Leon@shu.edu

We asked our Regional Admission Counselors to share more than just facts about their institutions but to give us insight into their everyday lives...

Interviews by Amy Mitchell

RACC Member Files

What is one of your strangest travel season experiences?

"My first week of travel season this year, I had a very strange hotel experience. I was getting ready for a high school visit, and when I looked in the mirror that had fogged up from my shower, I saw the words "He's coming" written on the mirror. I took it as a positive travel season omen that "He's coming" means I'm going to get a lot of students to enroll at Oklahoma City University next fall."- Tracee Duerson, Oklahoma City University

What made you begin your career in regional admissions?

"Working in college admissions is a second career for me after 25 years in the corporate world. I enjoyed my work with high school and college-aged students more than my corporate job, so when the UA job came along it turned out to be a good match and now I'm on my third year in regional admissions."-Scott Mackey, University of Alabama

What is your favorite on the road travel meal?

"Mexican! So many times it is visiting old places I used to go when I am down in San Diego, or discovering new places all over Southern California."- Kenneth Creech, University of Arizona

"After a long day of high school visits and fairs I love to order Chinese food to my hotel room...pretty much anything greasy I can excuse because I am on the road!"- Kristie Trevey, University of Colorado Boulder

"Margaritas!"- Gary Bednorz, University of New Mexico

"I love picking up sushi, edamame and other tasty, healthy snacks after a late night college fair, and eating in the quiet of my hotel room." -Jessica Shasserre, Maryville University

Updates & Reminders

Northern California RACC WEEK is coming up! It's not too late to sign up! Check out our website for details.

January 30, 2012-February 2, 2012

For more information on these events and all things RACC head to www.regionaladmissions.com

SAVE THE DATE

RACC will once again partner with WACAC to host the Share, Learn, and Connect Workshops. Sign up at www.wacac.org/slc

These one day workshops are designed to give local high school and community college counselors the opportunity for professional development via numerous break out sessions.

Orange County, February 28, 2012
San Diego, March 9, 2012
Moraga, March 1, 2012
Los Angeles, March 16, 2012

Having trouble keeping track of all these dates?

Let us do it for you! Check out the brand NEW "Calendar" function of our website. All RACC counselor events, college fairs and presentations will be updated and listed each month! Don't miss another event!

How To Reach RACC



Stay connected.

Become a "RACC Partner" at www.RegionalAdmissions.com

We're on Facebook!
Be sure to "like" us—
*"Regional Admission
Counselors of
California"*

For questions about RACC or to schedule a RACC event contact Teri Ann Matsuda at events@regionaladmissions.com

To contact RACC Chairman, Ed Devine, or other members of the RACC Board, email board@regionaladmissions.com

To **contact all RACC members** about an event you already have scheduled, email members@regionaladmissions.com

Being a RACC Partner puts you in our database to ensure you receive the most up to date information on all RACC news and events.

To become a **RACC Partner**, contact Marty Vaughn at partners@regionaladmissions.com

What can RACC do for you?

We are a resource.

RACC members are available to present on a variety of topics at college fairs, junior nights or individual classes. Topics include: How to Write a College Essay, SAT/ACT General Info and Strategies, What Colleges are Looking For and many more!

RACC is also available to organize group events at your institution. Events focus on out-of-state options, case studies or day time mini-college fairs.

RACC MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Arizona State University | Loyola New Orleans | Syracuse |
| Bennington College | Maryville University | Texas Christian University |
| Brandeis University | Miami University | University of Alabama |
| Colorado Mesa University | Michigan State University | University of Arizona |
| Columbia College | Milwaukee School of | University of Colorado, |
| Culinary Institute | Engineering | Boulder |
| Connecticut College | Northeastern | University of Colorado, |
| Drew University | Oklahoma City University | Colorado Springs |
| Drexel University | Oregon State University | University of Michigan |
| Franklin & Marshall | Purdue University | University of Minnesota |
| Global Links | Regis University | University of Nevada, Reno |
| Gordon College | Samford University | University of New Mexico |
| Grand Canyon University | Sarah Lawrence | University of Rochester |
| Hastings College | Savannah College of Art and | University of South Carolina |
| Hawaii Pacific University | Design | University of the Arts |
| Hillsdale College | Seton Hall University | University of Washington, |
| Johnson and Wales | Southern Methodist | Bothell |
| Lake Forest College | University | Whitman College |
| Lasell College | Southern Utah University | William Woods University |
| Lawrence University | Stonehill College | Xavier University |
| Loyola Chicago | | |

"We are most fortunate to have Admission Officers who are not only experts in the field of college admission, but **who love what they do** and are ready and willing to support high school counselors."

- Sally Spangler
College Counselor
La Canada High School

